



**DUMP NO WASTE
DRAINS TO LAKES
AND RIVERS**



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DID YOU SEE A MESSAGE LIKE THIS NEAR A STORM DRAIN?

It's a reminder to keep pollutants off streets, driveways, sidewalks and out of storm drains.



Storm drains collect water from rain and melting snow. Anything washed into the drain is carried directly to neighborhood lakes, ponds and rivers. Fertilizers, grass clippings, leaves, soil and car soap all contain phosphorus, which turns lakes and ponds green with weeds and algae in the summer. Just one pound of phosphorus in a lake can fuel 500 pounds of algae growth. Household chemicals, pesticides, paints, antifreeze and motor oil pollute the water and threaten fish and wildlife.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Tips to reduce polluted runoff draining to waterways:

- Dispose of hazardous waste properly.
- Point gutter downspouts away from your driveway and onto your lawn or collect it in a rain barrel.
- Reduce fertilizer and pesticide use. Only use zero phosphorus fertilizer.



For more information on proper hazardous waste disposal, contact The Recycling Zone – Dakota County at 651-905-4520 or visit www.dakotacounty.us and search "Recycling Zone"

Storm drain stenciling is coordinated by the City of Burnsville Natural Resources Department. Image provided by www.ThinkBlueMaine.org.

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